REMARKS

Applicants and the undersigned are most grateful for the time and effort accorded the instant application by the Examiner. The Office is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection present in the outstanding Office Action in light of the following remarks.

The specification was objected to because of formatting issues. The specification has been amended to address this issue. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-37 were pending in the instant application at the time of the outstanding Office Action. Of these claims, Claims 22, 24-27, 29 and 37 have been indicated by the Office as being withdrawn as a result of the restriction requirement. Applicants continue to traverse the restriction requirement. Of the other claims, Claims 15, 23, 28, and 30 are independent claims and the remaining claims are dependent claims. Independent Claims 15, 23, 28, and 30 have been rewritten. Applicants intend no change in the scope of the claims by the changes made by these amendments. It should also be noted these amendments are not in acquiescence of the Office's position on allowability of the claims, but merely to expedite prosecution.

Claims 15-21, 23, 28, and 30-36 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point our and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, it is asserted there is a lack of antecedent basis for specific terminology in claims 15, 23, 28, and 30. These

claims have been amended to address this issue. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-18, 23, 28, and 30-33 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hartung et al. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As best understood, Hartung et al. appears to be directed to a method for embedding watermarks in MPEG-2 video. The watermark is embedded by hiding information bits spread throughout the many pixels of the video data. (page 2622, column 1, paragraph 3)

There is no teaching or suggestion in Hartung et al. to have a system, an apparatus, or a storage medium to embed watermarks in the MPEG-2 video data. Specifically, Hartung et al. "introduce a scheme for watermarking of uncoded video". (page 2621, column 2, paragraph 3) Thus, Hartung et al. clearly does not disclose the invention as set forth in claims 15, 28, and 30. Additionally, there is no suggestion or teaching in Hartung et al. to disclose "embedding **part or all of the additional data**". (Claim 15, emphasis added) Similar language can be found in all of the independent claims. Hartung et al. state that either a watermarked or unwatermarked coefficient is transmitted back into the video data. (Page 2623, column 1) There is no suggestion or teaching of embedding only a part or section of the watermark into the data. Furthermore, there is nothing in Hartung et al. to suggest a "means for extracting data for a small domain from the detected video frame and for buffering the data" (language

which is found in all of the independent claims). Specifically, there is no suggestion or teaching of a means for buffering the video data.

It is respectfully submitted that Hartung et al. clearly falls short of present invention (as defined by the independent claims) in that, *inter alia*, it does not disclose embedding part or all of the additional data into the video data and it also does not disclose buffering the video data into which information is being embedded. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the applied art does not anticipate the present invention because, at the very least, "[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under construction." *W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock*, 721 F.2d 1540, 1554 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *see also In re Marshall*, 198 U.S.P.Q. 344, 346 (C.C.P.A. 1978).

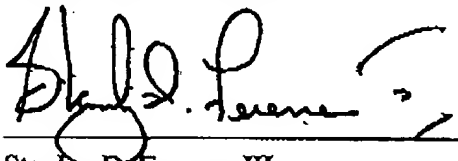
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 15, 23, 28, and 30 fully distinguish over the applied art and are thus allowable. By virtue of dependence from Claims 15 and 30, it is thus also submitted that Claims 16-21 and 31-36 are also allowable at this juncture. Applicants acknowledge that Claims 19-21 and 34-36 were indicated by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants reserve the right to file a new claims of such scope at a later date that would still, at that point, presumably be allowable.

The "prior art made of record" has been reviewed. Applicants acknowledge that such prior art was not deemed by the Office to be sufficiently relevant as to have been applied against the claims of the instant application. To the extent that the Office may

apply such prior art against the claims in the future, Applicants will be fully prepared to respond thereto.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, including Claims 15-21, 23, 28, and 30-36, is presently in condition for allowance. Notice to the effect is hereby earnestly solicited. If there are any further issues in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Stanley ~~D.~~ Ference III
Registration No. 33,879

Customer No. 35195
FERENCE & ASSOCIATES
409 Broad Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15143
(412) 741-8400
(412) 741-9292 - Facsimile

Attorneys for Applicants